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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/586,462	07/14/2006	Stefan Baldauf	2003P15347WOUS	7358

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SIEMENS CORPORATION
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT
170 WOOD AVENUE SOUTH
ISELIN, NJ 08830

EXAMINER

KERSHTEYN, IGOR

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3745

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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11/26/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/586,462	Applicant(s) BALDAUF ET AL.
	Examiner Igor Kershteyn	Art Unit 3745

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 July 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 15-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 15-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 14 July 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>07/14/2006, 1/22/2008</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 15-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Albrecht (3,950,113).

In figures 1-3, Albrecht teaches a turbine blade, comprising: a blade leaf 11 arranged along a blade axis having a blade tip (not numbered), a root opposite the tip 12, a suction side and a pressure side (not numbered); a platform region 15 arranged at the root of the blade leaf; and a platform arranged at the platform region having a width and extending transversely with respect to the blade axis and partially formed by a first sheet metal component 24 secured to a first abutment 15 arranged on the blade leaf such that the first sheet metal component 24 forms a seal when installed between the first abutment 15 and a second abutment arranged on an adjacent turbine blade. (See column 2, lines 30-68), column 4, lines 1-7).

Prior Art

Prior art made of record but not relied upon is considered pertinent to Applicant's disclosure and consist of three patents.

Penny (3,389,889) is cited to show a turbine blade, comprising: a blade leaf arranged along a blade axis having a blade tip, a root opposite the tip, a suction side and a pressure side; a platform region arranged at the root of the blade leaf; and a platform arranged at the platform region having a width and extending transversely with respect to the blade axis and partially formed by a first sheet metal component secured to a first abutment arranged on the blade leaf but fails to teach the first sheet metal component forms a seal when installed between the first abutment and a second abutment arranged on an adjacent turbine blade.

Hallinger (4,457,668) is cited to show a turbine blade, comprising: a blade leaf arranged along a blade axis having a blade tip, a root opposite the tip, a suction side and a pressure side; a platform region arranged at the root of the blade leaf; and a platform arranged at the platform region having a width and extending transversely with respect to the blade axis but fails to teach a first sheet metal component secured to a first abutment arranged on the blade leaf such that the first sheet metal component forms a seal when installed between the first abutment and a second abutment arranged on an adjacent turbine blade.

Simonetti et al. (6,398,499) is cited to show a turbine blade, comprising: a blade leaf arranged along a blade axis having a blade tip, a root opposite the tip, a suction side and a pressure side; a platform region arranged at the root of the blade leaf; and a platform arranged at the platform region having a width and extending transversely with respect to the blade axis but fails to teach a first sheet metal component secured to a first abutment arranged on the blade leaf such that the first sheet metal component

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forms a seal when installed between the first abutment and a second abutment arranged on an adjacent turbine blade.

Contact information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Kershteyn whose telephone number is **(571)272-4817**. The examiner can be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Look, can be reached on **(571)272-4820**. The fax number is 571-273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308 0861.

/Igor Kershteyn/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3745